

CLAIMS

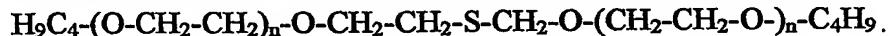
What is claimed is:

1. A rubber composition comprising at least a surfactant containing a thio functionality.

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2. The rubber composition of Claim 1, wherein the surfactant further comprises a thioether.

3. The rubber composition of Claim 2, wherein the surfactant further comprises an ether thioether of the formula:



4. An elastomer based rubber composition comprising per 100 parts of elastomer, and

15 about 0.02-10 parts of a surfactant containing a thio functionality.

5. An elastomer based rubber composition comprising per 100 parts of elastomer, and

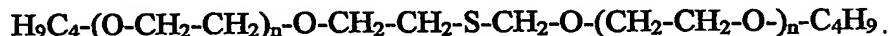
about 0.02-10 parts of an thioether surfactant.

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6. The rubber composition of Claim 4, wherein the elastomer has unsaturation in the polymer backbone.

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7. The rubber composition of Claim 4 wherein the surfactant is an ether thioether of the formula:



8. A vulcanized tire sidewall comprising based on 100 part of elastomer and about 0.02-10 parts of a surfactant containing a thio functionality.

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9. A tire comprising a vulcanized sidewall component comprising a sulfur-containing surfactant.

10. A method of forming a film on the exposed surface of vulcanized rubber, comprising;

- 5 adding about 0.02-10 parts of a surfactant containing a thio functionality to a rubber composition,
curing said rubber composition,
exposing the cured rubber composition to ozone.